HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.4676, by Representatives Quall, Bailey, Schindler, Dunn, Ahern, DeBolt, Sump, McDonald, Warnick, Walsh, Upthegrove, Jarrett, Ericksen, Schmick, Kristiansen, Crouse, Anderson, McCune, Herrera, Armstrong, Kretz, Smith, Ross, Rodne, Pearson, Santos, Priest, Haigh, Roach, Barlow, Simpson, Haler, Skinner, and Hankins

WHEREAS, The state of Washington recognizes home education as a valuable educational alternative; and

WHEREAS, The importance of parental involvement in children's education and character development is critical; and

WHEREAS, Homeschools offer families the opportunity for their children to receive an education that couples high standards with a sound environment based on individual family desires; and

WHEREAS, More than sixteen thousand Washington children are currently being home educated; and

WHEREAS, Studies confirm that children who are educated at home score exceptionally well on nationally normed achievement tests and are well-prepared to meet the challenges of today's society; and

WHEREAS, Home education was one of the only means of education for much of America's early history; and

WHEREAS, Many notable Americans, including George and Martha Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Abigail Adams, John Quincy Adams, Chief Seattle, Thomas Edison, Sacajawea, Helen Keller, Douglas MacArthur, Geronimo, Pearl S. Buck, Franklin Roosevelt, Patrick Henry, John Marshall, Abraham Lincoln, and Woodrow Wilson were primarily educated at home; and

WHEREAS, Washington state recognizes home educators for their continued commitment to the diversity and quality of education in our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives hereby honor, thank, and celebrate the home-educating families in Washington state.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4676 adopted by the House of Representatives February 6, 2008

Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk